

104<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 1343

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide that eligible organizations assure out-of-network access.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 19 (legislative day, OCTOBER 18), 1995

Mr. HELMS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide that eligible organizations assure out-of-network access.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Senior Citizens Health  
5       Freedom Act of 1995”.

6       **SEC. 2. ASSURING OUT-OF-NETWORK ACCESS.**

7       Section 1876 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
8       1395mm) is amended by adding at the end the following  
9       new subsection:

1       “(k)(1) An eligible organization that contracts with  
2 a specific network of providers must not limit the ability  
3 of its enrollees under this section to seek at any time  
4 items, treatment, and services from out-of-network provid-  
5 ers for all covered benefits.

6       “(2) An eligible organization under this section shall  
7 provide for reimbursement for the enrollee in an amount  
8 equal to 70 percent of the reasonable charges for such  
9 services, with respect to out-of-network services which are  
10 described in paragraph (1), so long as the services are  
11 medically appropriate and are covered benefits in-net-  
12 work.”.

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